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Economic Survey of the Hamlet of Egremont
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GOVERNMENT
OF THE
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Economic Survey

Hamlet of Egremont

Industry
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

HON. A. J. HOOKE
MINISTER

RALPH R. MOORE
DEPUTY MINISTER

ECONOMIC SURVEY
HAMLET OF EGREMONT

BY

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

This survey was compiled with the assistance of the President of the Board of Trade and Citizen's who were familiar with the history of the district.

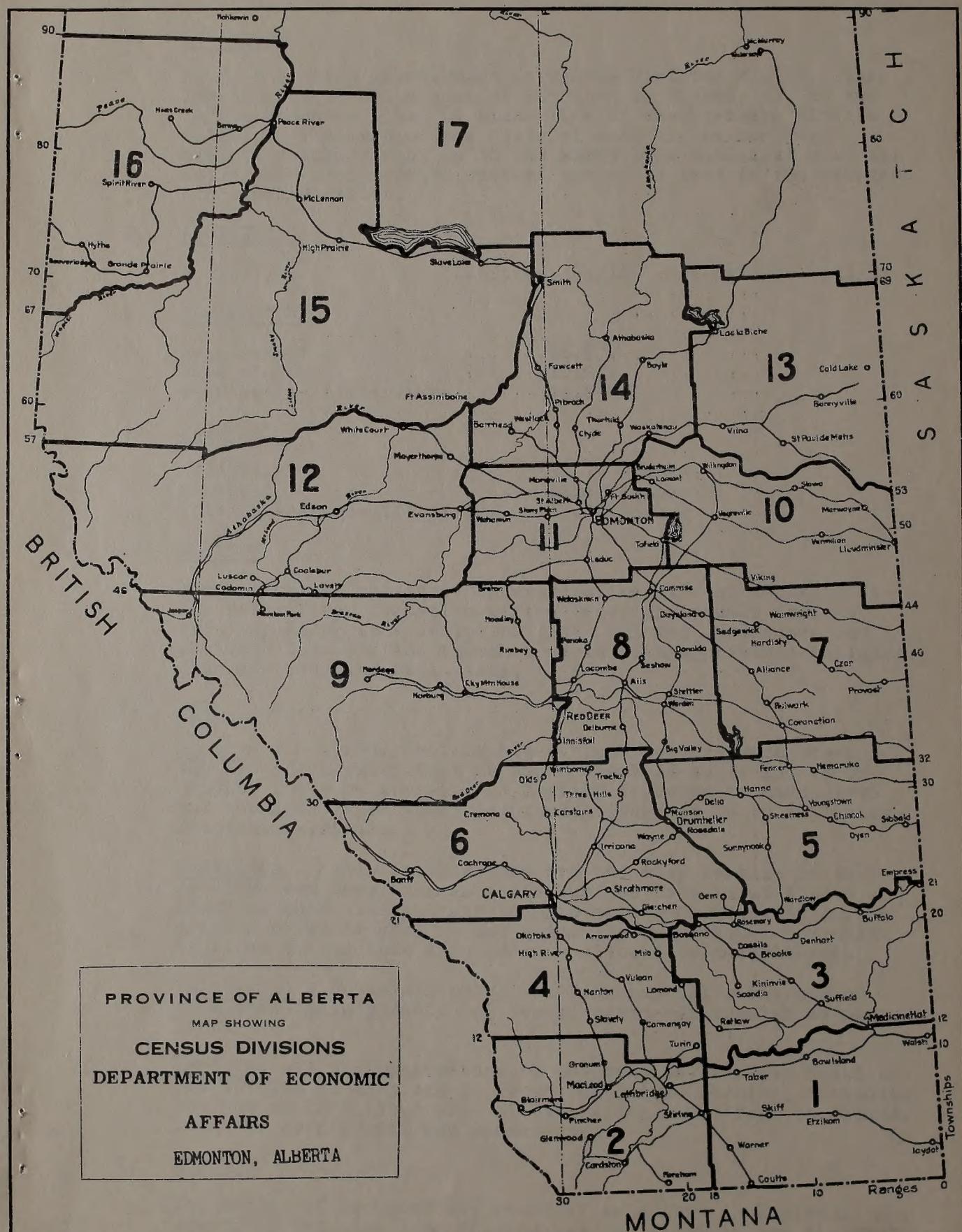
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MARCH 1950

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PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
MAP SHOWING
CENSUS DIVISIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
AFFAIRS
EDMONTON, ALBERTA



HAMLET OF EGREMONT MARCH 1950

1. LOCATION

S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ section 25-58-22-W4 in Census Division No. 14. This location is 41 miles east of Edmonton on Highway No. 28 and on the Edmonton - Lac La Biche line of the Northern Alberta railway. The part of the district east of the Northern Alberta railway track is in the Smoky Lake Municipal district while the major portion west of the track lies in the Sturgeon Municipal district.

2. ALTITUDE

2,056 feet Latitude 54/15 Longitude 113/07

3. TEMPERATURES

Mean summer	55.3° F
Mean winter	19.8° F
Mean yearly temperature	34.6° F

4. RAINFALL

Rainfall	10.74 inches
Snowfall	45.6 inches
Total yearly precipitation	15.30 inches

5. GEOLOGY

The bedrock of this area underlying the glacial deposits is the Belly River formation of the Upper Cretaceous period. This formation is a series of light colored sandstones and shales. This horizon in other parts of the province includes dinosaur beds and coal seams.

6. SOIL

Black - The normal profile has a black to very dark brown surface (A) horizon that averages about 12 to 14 inches in depth. The more compact (B) horizon is brown to dark brown and the lime layer (Bca) is usually found at 30 to 40 inches below the surface.

Fertility - Soils in this zone are the most fertile in the province and they have in their surface foot about 3 to 4 times as much nitrogen and organic matter as there is in the average brown or grey wooded soil. Every precaution should be taken to see that they are not allowed to deteriorate.

Vegetation - Grassland which has been partially invaded by woodlands (mainly deciduous trees) often referred to as park-land.

Land Use - A high percentage of the zone is arable. Wheat of fairly good quality can be grown, but mixed farming, including the use of fertilizer when needed is desirable from the standpoint of both profit and permanence.

7. HISTORY

The hamlet of Egremont was named after a town in England. Mr. Armstrong who came from England was the first in the district and was responsible for the district's first industrial venture. He sailed from England with the idea in mind to make farming his future and from this vast Dominion picked this particular spot and took up a homestead.

The next pioneer to settle in the district was a man by the name of Ted Wagner who came in 1912 and also took out a homestead. He was followed a year later by Tom Petrie who came in 1913 and became the districts first postmaster.

When the Northern Alberta Railway came through in 1914, Mr. Armstrong took over the duties of district postmaster, giving the post office the name of "Egremont".

This move apparently started the wheels of industry turning. Mr. G. G. Weeks moved in and built a general store and later as the hamlet started to take shape, Mr. Pocan erected a second general store and thus from year to year the hamlet grew.

Due to the district still being rather sparsely populated the hamlet has progressed slowly and is still quite small. The major portion of the population in the Egremont district is of Ukrainian nationality.

8. LIVING CONDITIONS

To date the hamlet of Egremont has a total of nineteen resident homes. All homes are owner-occupied and have no utilities other than electric lighting. All buildings are quite neat in appearance and ample building space is available for future expansion.

9. ADMINISTRATION

Since the major portion of Egremont lies in the Sturgeon Municipal district, the council is elected from that district and consists of two councillors elected for three year terms.

10. LAWS AND REGULATIONS

The Electrical Code conforms to the requirements of the Alberta Electrical Protection Act.

The Sanitary Regulations conform to the Alberta Public Health Regulations.

11. FIRE PROTECTION

Egremont has no fire protection. Several attempts have been made by one or two of the more fire-conscious town folk and the lastest attempt has resulted in the installation of an electric signal siren on the top of the hotel.

12. TAX STRUCTURE

	<u>1949 ASSESSMENT</u>	<u>CONSOLIDATED MILL RATE</u>
Land	\$ 3,620.00	45 mills
Improvements	13,530.00	
Industry and Business	28,040.00	
Personal Property	37,620.00	
	<u>\$ 82,810.00</u>	

13. AREAS

	<u>ACRES</u>
Area of hamlet	20
Streets and lanes	3
Public parks	nil

Roads, streets and lanes

<u>Asphalt</u>	<u>Gravel</u>	<u>Unopened</u>	<u>Ungravelled</u>	<u>Total</u>
$\frac{1}{4}$ mile	1 mile	$\frac{1}{4}$ mile	nil	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles

There is approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of paved sidewalk in Egremont and the streets are gravelled.

14. SEWER AND WATER MAIN

Nil.

15. WATER

Egremont has no water system, but depends entirely on wells located conveniently throughout the hamlet.

Water Analysis

	<u>Parts per Million</u>
Total solids	1060
Ignition loss	300
Hardness	400
Sulphates	60
Chlorides	9
Alkalinity	700

Nature of alkalinity - chloride of lime, magnesium and soda.

Remarks: Iron content; very heavy red sediment and 10.5 parts per million.

This is very hard water: 28 grains per gallon hardness. 22 grains per gallon carbonate of soda.

This would be an unusual analysis for a whole district, therefore, since this is a report of water obtained from only one well, it can be assumed that there are various types of water in the district.

16. POWER

There is a total of 39 service connections in Egremont and electric power is supplied by the Calgary Power Company Ltd.,

Rates

Domestic

First 20 KWH (or less) per month \$3.30 gross minimum

Subject to 30¢ prompt payment discount making \$3.00 net minimum

Next 180 KWH used per month 2¢ net per KWH

All over 200 KWH used per month 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ net per KWH

Note: Discount of 30¢ per month applies to all bills paid within ten days of date rendered.

Connection charge \$1.00

Reconnection charge 6.00

Commercial - Minimum monthly charges.

First 500 watts of installed capacity \$3.30 gross

\$3.00 net which includes payment for consumption up to 20 KWH per month. For each additional 250 watts of installed capacity \$1.00 net per month which includes payment for additional consumption up to 10 KWH per month.

Energy Charge

For all consumption in excess of number of KWH included in the minimum charge block - 2¢ net per KWH.

Discount of 30¢ applies to all monthly bills paid within ten days.

Consumers Deposit - Twice the gross monthly minimum charge or at the Company's option - twice the consumer's estimated bill. Reconnection charge \$6.00.

Power Service

First 50 KWH's per month per KVA of installation 5¢ per KWH
Next 50 KWH's per month per KVA of installation 3 1/3¢ per KWH
All over 100 KWH's per month per KVA of installation 3 2/3¢ per KWH

Discount: 10%, 10 days - based on even dollars only of total bill with a minimum discount of 50¢ per month.

Minimum monthly charge - The amount of the service charge but in no case less than \$5.00 gross per month.

Consumer's deposit - \$2.00 per KVA of installation and not less than \$10.00. Reconnection charge \$6.00

17. GAS

None

18. L.P. GAS

Only a small quantity of L. P. Gas is used in Egremont and is trucked from Edmonton and delivered to each individual consumer.

19. DIESEL FUEL

There are three agents who handle and stock diesel fuel. The B. A. Oil Company stocks 3,000 gallons; Imperial Oil, 6,000 gallons and the Searle Grain Company, 3,000 gallons making a total of 12,000 gallons. It is priced at 20.6¢ per gallon.

20. COAL

Lump	Stoker	Egg
\$9.10	\$6.45	\$8.75

In addition to the above graded coal which is shipped from Edmonton a larger portion of the district's coal supply is obtained from the "North Point Coal Company" and "Thorhild Coal Company" located five miles east of Thorhild. Consumer's arrange their own transportation and the selling price is \$4.00 per ton mine run.

21. LOCAL RESOURCES

Cereals
Dairy Products
Honey
Livestock
Poultry and eggs
Sand
Gravel
Straw
Wood fuel

22. GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND SERVICES

Federal
Post office

Municipal - none

Provincial

Alberta Government Telephones

23. HEALTH SERVICES

Egremont has no health services other than a doctor and one nurse from the Sturgeon Health Unit in Edmonton, who visit the hamlet once weekly.

24. PROFESSIONAL AND SKILLED SERVICES
(not including health services)

Type of Service	No. of Establishments
Public Accountant	1
Barber Shop	1

25. TRANSPORTATION

Transportation facilities through Egremont include the Northern Alberta Railway running between Edmonton and Lac La Biche, the Sunburst Bus line operating between Edmonton and Boyle, and the Greyhound Bus Line operating between Edmonton and St. Paul.

26. NEWSPAPERS

None

27. COMMUNICATIONS

Alberta Government Telephones
Post office
N.A.R. Telegraph
Nearest radio stations in Edmonton

28. FINANCIAL FACILITIES

None

29. HOTELS

	No. of Rooms	Single Rate	Licensed
Egremont Hotel	10	\$1.50 up	yes

30. TOURIST CAMPS

None

31. CHURCHES

Roman Catholic
United Church
Greek Catholic

32. LODGES

None

33. SERVICE CLUBS

Board of Trade
Community Clubs

34. SOCIETIES

Red Cross

35. EDUCATION

The Egremont School District is in the Thorhild School Division No. 57. Five school rooms accommodate a total of five teachers and 117 pupils. Grades from 1 - 12 are taught.

36. THEATRES AND HALLS

	<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Stage</u>	<u>Piano</u>
Community Hall	300	yes	yes

37. CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

None, apart from school curriculum.

38. SPORTS

Hockey
Skiing
Baseball
Softball

Facilities

Hockey and skating rink (open)
School grounds for other sports

39. YOUTH ACTIVITIES

None

40. FAIRS

Annual Sports Day

41. HISTORIC SITES

None

42. CO-OPERATIVES

Co-operative General Store
Alberta Wheat Pool
Maple Leaf Co-op Petroleum

43. INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS

<u>Type of Industry</u>	<u>No. of Establishments</u>	<u>Producer or Manufacturer</u>	<u>Wholesale</u>	<u>Retail</u>
Barbers	1	.....	....	1
Butchers	2	.....	....	2
Blacksmiths	1	.....	....	1
Confectionery	1	.....	....	1
Coal Dealers	1	.....	....	1
General Stores	5	.....	....	5
Electrical Appliances	1	.....	....	1
Electrical Contractors	1	.....	....	1
Garages and Service Stns.	2	.....	....	2
Grain Elevators	3	Capacity 102,000 bushel	....
Hardware	1	.....	....	1
Hotels	1	.....	....	1
Implements	1	.....	....	1
Lumber Yards	2	.....	....	2
Oil Distributors	3	.....	....	3
Pool Rooms	1	.....	....	1
Restaurant	2	.....	....	2
Tinsmith	1	.....	....	1
Welding and Machine Shop	2	.....	....	2

44. SITES

Egremont is situated in an ideal rich farming district and borders the fabulous Red Water oil fields. Though lacking utilities, with exception of electric power, it has strong possibilities for future expansions due to its location. The district is served by the Northern Alberta Railway and has good gravel roads.

45. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

For the past twenty years the Egremont district has progressed steadily in agriculture and mixed farming its special type. In 1949 an oil well was drilled and is now producing two miles to the south.

46. TRADING AREA

The trading area of Egremont extends to a distance of 4 miles north; 9 miles west; 4 miles south and 8 miles east.

47. TRADING AREA POPULATION

1946 census 1,552
1949 estimate 1,750
Hamlet population 1948 census - local - 80

48. INTERESTING VIEWS OF EGREMONT AND DISTRICT

